

CLAIMS:

5 1. A side air-bag, the side air-bag incorporating an internal tether, the internal tether serving to interconnect two spaced-apart regions of the air-bag, the distance around the periphery of the air-bag, in horizontal section, between the ends of the tether being greater in one direction than in the other direction, the length of the tether being less than the shorter distance.

10 2. A side air-bag according to Claim 1 wherein the tether has an overall vertical extent of at least 50 mm.

15 3. A side air-bag according to Claim 1 or 2 where the side air-bag incorporates a region to receive a gas generator and an inflatable region extending therefrom, the tether extending from a point in or adjacent the said region to receive the gas generator to a point within the inflatable region which is remote from the gas generator.

20 4. An air-bag according to Claim 3 wherein the air-bag is formed from two super-imposed substantially identical layers of fabric, the layers of fabric being interconnected by a peripheral seam, the tether extending from the said region to receive a gas generator to, part of one of said layers of fabric spaced from said peripheral seam.

25 5. An air-bag according to Claim 3 wherein the air-bag is formed from two super-imposed substantially identical layers of fabric interconnected by a peripheral seam, the internal tether extending from part of the peripheral seam to a point adjacent the region to receive the gas generator.

6. An air-bag according to Claim 3 wherein the air-bag is formed from two super-imposed substantially identical layers of fabric interconnected by a peripheral seam, there being a gusset or third layer of fabric interposed between 5 said two layers of fabric over at least part of the peripheral seam, the tether extending from the said region to receive an air-bag to a side edge part of said gusset.
7. An air-bag according to Claim 3 wherein the air-bag is formed from two 10 adjacent layers of fabric of different sizes interconnected by a peripheral seam, the internal tether extending from the said region to receive the gas generator to part of the peripheral seam.
8. An air-bag according to any of the preceding Claims wherein the tether 15 is a single panel.
9. An air-bag according to any of Claims 1 to 7 wherein the tether is a plurality of straps acting together.